

# Briefly Told

"Lakes of milk but no churns" was the condition in which Derbyshire farmers found themselves by reason of the railroad strike.

German prisoners are being returned from England at the rate of 400 a day.

Chinese classes are having a vogue in British colleges which is comparable to the vogue of Spanish classes in the United States.

Gen. Pershing told the House Military Affairs Committee that in his opinion an army of 275,000 men was sufficient, providing it was backed up by universal military training.

The Schlitz Brewing Company is disposing of 2,000 parcels of property in the United States.

A college extension course has been inaugurated for the benefit of prisoners in the state penitentiary of Washington.

When the war stopped, mine work in this country was seriously curtailed by order of the operators. They apparently did not wish to disturb the exorbitant price of coal by putting a good stock of it on the markets. There would seem to be work for the government here—work punitive and reconstructive.

The difference between the simon-pure capitalist and the manufacturer was seldom more clearly disclosed than in the recent Federal Industrial Conference, so early and unhappily defunct. The Public Group contained many of the large employers of labor. The Capitalist Group was composed of the banking and financial interests. They were not in harmony for one minute. The employers charged the banking group with running the country upon dangerous rocks.

"I am always telling the choir to think about the meaning of the words, not the right way of producing tones. If they understand the fullness and the richness of the words, their tones will be beautiful," says Frederick Alexander, of the Michigan State Normal Conservatory of Music.

There are 200 species of oak trees in the world, 50 of which are native to America.

Canada has increased its bond subscribers by 300,000 since the armistice.

The German ships that escaped sinking at Scapa Flow will be divided between Italy and France. This with the consent of the United States.

The President of the German Republic must take this oath: "I swear to consecrate all my energy to the welfare of the German people and nation . . . to avert its injury . . . to deal justly with all."

A project to trap the tide of the Bay of Fundy by constructing two concrete dams, each a mile long, which will retain one of the highest tides in the world, in a veritable reservoir, and then allow the water to flow back into the sea over huge water-wheels, is being promoted in Canada.

The tailspin is the cause of most of the fatal flying accidents.

Forty thousand American motor cars taken over by the French army are rusting in the parks of France. It will take over a year to dispose of them.

England has not been painted for five years, and lacks the paint to begin. An order for 250 tons of white lead at more than market price was recently refused by an American firm because it could not supply the home demand.

Siberian peasants have been given credit to the extent of \$5,000,000 by the United States War Department for the purchasing of agricultural and dairy machinery, and to aid in the general development of that industry.

"The experience and history of social unrest has shown that a preponderance of labor 'strikes' occur at the close of a period of good times rather than at the beginning of a period of business prosperity. Therefore the present harvest of 'strikes' may be regarded as the harbinger of manufacturing retrenchment and industrial reaction."—C. Frederic Childs and Co., authorities on government bonds.

"The present spurt in real estate values is in itself an indication that the present business cycle is nearly finished. Economic history shows that a real estate boom in the past has marked the last phase of each period of inflation."—Roger W. Babson.

There were 497 business failures in the month of September, with liabilities of \$8,000,000.

Anthracite coal production for the year to October 11 was 7,000,000 tons short of the amount mined in the same period last year.

Because great quantities of sweets are consumed by nations and sects which abstain from alcohol, manufacturers expect that a great part of the \$2,000,000,000 formerly spent for alcohol will go for sugar derivatives.

The third successive short crop of cotton has left the world 6,000,000 bales below the 1915 supply. Even the stimulus of the highest prices does not suffice to keep production steady.

A craze for diamonds has broken out in England. Jewelers report a large demand, especially among women who are engaged in war work.

Two hundred cows purchased by an American Relief Society have given Bohemian children the first taste of milk they have had since the war's outbreak.

All Japanese shipbuilding plants are pushing production. Nippon's mercantile marine is still enjoying war-time prosperity. Steamship companies purchase cargo vessels as soon as they are built.

China has ordered from American manufacturers large quantities of railroad equipment. She is gradually developing railroads that for many years have been the poorest systems in the world.

No applications were received for the position of postmaster of an Ohio town after a great deal of advertising. The salary offered was \$225 a year.

Ninety per cent of the world's supply of cinchona bark is grown in Java. It is transported to Holland which now has a monopoly of the manufacture of quinine.

Schumann-Heink also is opposed to German opera in this country. "Keep the German music, but the language—no!" she says.

Speaking of modern styles of dress, Rev. J. R. Crowther, of Seattle, says: "In public these days you can hardly tell the difference between a street woman and a church woman."

Abe Rueff, once boss of San Francisco, and recently released from prison, was known as the most brilliant undergraduate the University of California had in his day. "Education simply grafted the qualities of the fox upon the wolf," says Prof. Sharp of the University of Wisconsin.

The Mexican cure for old age and recipe for a life of 400 to 500 years, is the eating of raw vegetables and honey.

An irate Congressman has charged that the House restaurant prices allow for a profit of 200 per cent.

Barn-fed rats, snared in a hop garden, make welcome food for the Chinese. Split open, dried, pressed and powdered, they look somewhat like haddocks as they hang in long strings over the butchers' stalls. A national campaign against rats always solves the Chinese food problem.

The British prohibition movement is progressing. Sermons favoring the cause have been given in Westminster Abbey and St. Paul's.

Suggestion has been made that the Temple of Peace, the habitat of the League of Nations, be built of bricks, each one of which should be contributed by the next-of-kin to a fallen soldier.

By the terms of the Americanization Bill before Congress, sixteen million adult Americans are to be enrolled in the government's first reader classes.

One million cigarets are smoked daily by English women.

Theodore Roosevelt left an estate valued at \$801,607. Among the items were 2,474 shares of stock, \$509,000 worth of bonds, mostly railroad, and \$75,000 worth of Liberty bonds.

The opponent of Theodore Roosevelt, Jr., for assemblyman from the Oyster Bay district was an ex-private and the son of a tailor. His campaign slogan was: "My hat is in the ring, but it isn't my father's." He lost.

The Potomac was originally the "Pawtawmack."

Abe Martin figures that \$7 a day and board amounts to about \$150 a week.

The armistice was signed at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. Washington celebrated it with eleven minutes of song.

J. Hampton Moore, well-known member of Congress, has been elected mayor of Philadelphia.

The half million suits of pajamas distributed for use in the Balkan hospitals are being used for day wear by the people, on account of the scarcity of clothing.

"I am still unable to believe in a lasting peace, particularly after we have had exhibited to us the state of mind in which the Entente has founded what it calls a real peace."—Bethmann Hollweg.

It now appears that the Order of the Grand Cross of the Bath given to Gen. Pershing and Admiral Sims does not, in their cases, carry the title "Sir."

A new Cabinet position is proposed—the Secretary of National Defense.

Religious circles abroad are greatly exercised over what is termed the Allies' policy of starving the people of Central Europe. Quakers and the Established Church have been specially pointed in their expressions of horror and denunciation. Germany has been described, by church representatives sent over to investigate, as "an ocean of human suffering."

The lack of metallic money in France is hindering trade. The melting down and exportation of coin has left the country almost destitute of "small change."

Prices are as high in the United States as in Germany, the only difference being that in the United States the goods can be had and money wherewith to buy them.

When the onslaught of the government made cold storage of food an unsafe industry, England bought the millions of dozens of eggs which the campaign threw upon the market. When United States leather decreased in price after the war, England bought every hide on the market. In consequence, Americans are paying more for eggs and shoes than are the British people.

Four hundred families of destroyed villages in Western Galicia are preparing to winter in caves, grottoes, and underground homes.

The largest coral reef in the world, one thousand miles wide, is situated on the northeastern coast of Australia.

Many American cities are building palatial movie theaters, while the shortage of homes continues to cause great suffering.

There will be shipped to points in the British Empire, fifty million feet of Douglas fir in the form of demountable ships. Each vessel will represent about five million feet, and will be towed to its destination from Seattle, Washington.

"The position of women under Bolshevism has improved, not deteriorated. The nationalization story can be nailed to the counter, and with it goes the free-love 'canard.' Marriage in Russia is a civil function, but no hindrance is placed in the way of further religious ceremony . . . There is no country in the world where more care, money, and thought are bestowed on the children by the government, than in Russia today."—Manchester Guardian's special Russian correspondent.

The city of Washington has set aside a large fertile acreage for use as a municipal farm where any citizen may have his vegetable patch. There are buildings nearby for storing implements and work clothes.

The Mt. Vernon Ladies' Society which has had control of George Washington's estate on the Potomac, may soon turn the property over to Congress. Congress wishes to abolish the annoying and much criticised custom of charging an entrance fee.

Big Bill Haywood's patriotic reference to the defenders of his country from Prussian imperialism is herewith given: "The American Legion are cooties."

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